

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 01529 080928Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W  
-----057045 080940Z /15  
Z O 080850Z APR 78 ZFF-6  
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 8239  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO FLASH  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA FLASH  
AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1529

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK, TZ  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MEETING WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT

REF: STATE 090991

1. SUMMARY. BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT REFTEL DECISION IN FAVOR MEETING WITH PF IN LUSAKA APRIL 14-15 BE REVIEWED IMMEDIATELY. TANGOV IS CLEARLY DISPLEASED WITH IDEA OF CHANGE AND FEARFUL THAT IT WILL CATALYZE MAJOR CONFRONTATION WITHIN PATRIOTIC FRONT. END SUMMARY.

2. APRIL 0800 I CONTACTED TANZANIAN UN AMBASSADOR SALIM WHO HANDLING CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TANGOV TO DISCUSS CONTENTS REFTEL. SALIM'S REACTION WAS ONE OF DEEP CONCERN. HE  
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SAID INFO TANGOV HAD FROM ITS AMBASSADOR IN MAPUTO WAS THAT NKOMO WAS AGREEABLE TO DAR ES SALAAM OR ARUSHA MEETING BUT A FEW DAYS AFTER APRIL 15-16. MUGABE WAS NOW IN DAR ES SALAAM. HE WAS AGREEABLE TO ARUSHA.

3. IF TANZANIA MEETING HAD NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC, SALIM SAID, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TALK PRIVATELY ABOUT CHANGES IN DATE AND

VENUE; BUT US HAD ANNOUNCED, AFTER AGREEMENT AMONG ALL PARTIES, TANZANIA HAD UNDERTAKEN COMMITMENTS, AND A PROCESS HAD BEEN SET IN MOTION. TO DISRUPT IT AS PROPOSED WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE IMPORTANT POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES.

4. SALIM DOUBTED MUGABE WOULD BE WILLING TO GO TO LUSAKA. SUCH A MOVE WOULD BE TO HIS DISADVANTAGE. WE WOULD HAVE THE ELEMENTS OF THE PF AT EACH OTHERS' THROATS AGAIN

5. SALIM SUGGESTED THAT WE OPERATE FOR THE MOMENT ON THE BASIS THAT I HAD NOT YET PRESENTED ANY CHANGE IN VENUE TO THE, TANGOV AND ASKED THAT I DO ALL POSSIBLE TO DELAY THE EMBASSY IN LUSAKA FROM DOING SO WITH THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT. SALIM WOULD BRIEF NYERERE. WE WOULD REVIEW THE SITUATION TOGETHER AGAIN LATER IN THE DAY.

6. BRITISH HERE HAVE NO INSTRUCTIONS AT THIS MOMENT. ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER STRONG ASKED NOT TO ACCOMPANY ME TO SEE SALIM AND PREFERS RESERVE UK POSITION UNTIL HE HEARS FROM LONDON.

7. COMMENT. VENUE IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN TIMING. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND WE REVERT TO THE ARUSHA MEETING-EVEN IF IT HAS TO BE HELD A FEW DAYS LATER. NYERERE HAS INVESTED A LOT IN THIS PLAN; HE WILL BE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN KAUNDA IN KEEPING THE PF IN LINE; IF WE CASUALLY THROW HIM OVERBOARD, WE MAY LOSE MUCH IN TERMS OF FUTURE COOPERATION. THE PF IS NOT NKOMO ALONE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DANGER OF MUGABE'S REFUSING TO GO TO LUSAKA IS VERY REAL. ANOTHER OUTBURST OF PF SQUABBLING IS THE LAST THING WE NEED NOW. IN FACT, I SUGGEST IT IS NOT TOO MUCH TO SAY THAT, IF WE INSIST ON LUSAKA, THE NET RESULT COULD BE THAT THERE WILL BE NO MALTA II AT ALL.  
SPAIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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